ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIRED OF BY THE CHURCH-wardens and Sworn-men, within the Archdeaconrie of S. *Albones* in the Dioceſſe of *London* An. Dom. 1632

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The tenor of the Oath of the Church-wardens and Sworn-men.

YOu ſhall ſwear, that upon due conſideration of theſe Articles given you in charge, you ſhall preſent every ſuch perſon of or within your Pariſh, as you ſhall know to have committed any offence, or omitted any duty mentioned in any of theſe Articles, or which are publikely defamed, or vehemently ſuſpected of any ſuch offence or negligence. So help you God, by the contents of his holy Goſpel.

THe Churchwardens are to exhibite a Regiſter-bill in parchment of all chriſtnings, marriages, and burials, at the feaſt of S. Michael the Archangel, which have hapned the yeare paſt, ſubſcribed with the hands of the Miniſter and Churchwardens.

TOUCHING THE CHURCH.

WHether is your Church or Chappell with the Chancell thereof, and every part of either of them, well and sufficiently repaired, the windowes well glased the floors paved plain and even, without dust, or any thing noysome or unseemly?

2 Whether is your Churchyard well fenced with walls, rails, pales, as hath been accustomed? if not, whose default is it?

3 Whether have there been any fighting, chiding, brawling, or quarrelling; any playes, feasts, temporall courts or leets, lay-juries, musters, or other prophane usage in your Church or Churchyard, and the bels superstitiously rung on holy-dayes, or their eves, or at any other time, without good cause allowed by the Minister and Churchwardens? have any trees been felled in your Churchyard? and by whom?

4 Whether is the Manion-house of your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, with all the buildings thereunto belonging, your Parish Almeshouse and Church-house sufficiently repaired, maintained, and to godly and their right uses imployed?

5 Whether have you in your Church the Bible in the largest volume, the book of common Prayer lately authorized by his Majesty, the book of Homilies allowed, the two Psalters, a convenient pulpit for the preaching, a decent seat for the Minister to read service in conveniently placed, a strong chest with a hole in the lid, and three locks and keyes, one for the Minister, the other for the Churchwardens for the almes of the poore, and the keeping of the Register book of the christnings, marriages and burials?

6 Whether have you in your Church a Font of stone for baptisme, set in the ancient usuall place, a decent table for the Communion, conveniently placed, covered with silk, or other decent stuffe, in the time of divine Service, and with a faire linen cloth over that, at the administration of the Communion.

7 Whether have you all such hole-

as have anciently belonged to your Church, a Communion cup of ſilver with a cover, a faire ſtanding pot or ſtoop of pewter, or puret mettall, for the wine upon the Communion table, a comely ſurpleſſe with ſleeves, a Regiſter book of parchment for chriſtnings, marriages, and burialls, a book for the names of all ſtrange Preachers, ſubſcribed with their names, and the name of the Biſhop, or others where they had licence?

8 Whether have you a book of Canons of 1603? and doth your Miniſter read them publickly once every yeare?

9 Whether is the Almes of your poore, quarterly at the leaſt diſtributed by your Churchwardens and the Miniſter, in the preſence of ſix of the chief Pariſhioners, to your poore? And are weekly the names and ſurnames of all perſons married, chriſtned, and buried, and of their parents, with the day and yeare, entred into your ſaid parchment book? and is every leaf, being full, ſubſcribed by you the Miniſter and Churchwardens? and whether is the Regiſter book laid up again in a ſure cheſt, under three locks and three keies? and who do keep the ſaid keies?

10 Whether are the ten commandments ſet up in the Eaſt end of the Church, and other choſen ſentences of holy Scripture, upon the walls in convenient places, and the table of the degrees of matrimony ſet up alſo in your Church? Are all your ſeats in your Church in good repair, cleanly kept, conveniently placed, and the Pariſhioners in them, or elſewhere orderly ſet? and is there any contention or ſtriving for any ſeat or place amongſt them?

11 Whether have any of your Pariſh erected any new ſeat in your Church, without the privity and conſent of the Ordinary of the place? are any of the uſuall paſſages or alleys of the Church, ſtopped, hindred or defaced by any ſuch erected ſeat? or is the view or light of any of the Pariſhioners hindred by the height, breadth, or length of the ſame?

Touching the miniſterie, Service, and Sacraments.

WHether is the Common Prayer read by your Miniſter both morning and evening, diſtinctly and reverently every Sunday and holy-day, and on their eves, and at convenient and uſuall times of thoſe dayes, and in moſt convenient place of the Church, for the edifying of the people?

2 Whether doth your Minister the next Sunday before the fift day of *November*, give publick warning to the Parishioners in the time of morning prayer, that the said fift day of *November* they do assemble themselves in their Church or Chappell, there to attend divine Service, and to give publick thanks to Almighty God for his mercifull deliverance of the whole Realm from the late most barbarous treason intended the said day in the yeare 1605? And doth he then read morning prayer, and the Act of Parliament made concerning a publick thanksgiving for the said deliverance? and doth he give thanks for the said deliverance?

3 Whether doth your Minister observe the orders, rites and ceremonies prescribed in the book of Common Prayer, in reading the holy Scriptures, Prayers, and administration of the sacraments, without diminishing, in regard of preaching, or any other respect, or adding any thing in the matter or form thereof?

4 Whether doth your Minister on Wednesdayes and Fridayes, not being holy-dayes, at the accustomed houres of Service, resort to the Church, and say the Letany prescribed? and doth your Clark or Sexton give warning before by towling a bell on those dayes?

5 Whether doth your Minister as oft as he administreth the Communion, first receive it himself, humbly kneeling upon his knees? whether doth he use any bread or wine newly bought, before the words of institution be rehearsed, and the bread and wine present on the table? Doth he not deliver the bread and wine to every communicant severally?

6 Whether doth your Minister give warning publickly in the Church at morning Prayer, the Sunday before he administreth the Communion, for the better preparation of the Parishioners.

7 Whether hath your Minister admitted to the Communion any notorious sinner openly known or defamed, or any who hath openly and maliciously contended with his neighbour, before repentance and reconciliation made and done by appointment of the Ordinary?

8 Whether hath your Minister admitted to the communion any Churchwarden or Sideman, who hath wittingly and willingly neglected (contrary to his oath) to present any publick offence or scandall, being moved to present either by some of his neighbours, the Minister, or his Ordinarie?

9 Whether hath your Minister administred the communion to any but such as kneel? or do any refuse to kneel? hath he administred

to any who refuſe to be preſent at publick Prayer, adminiſtration of the Sacraments, or the Rites and Ceremonies preſcribed; or which have ſpoken againſt the Articles of Religion agreed upon, or the book for ordering Prieſts and Biſhops: or againſt his Majeſties ſupremacie? or have any been for theſe cauſes repelled, and repented in writing, or otherwiſe? and what be their names?

10 Whether hath your Miniſter more Benefices then one? if he have, how farre diſtant are they? how often is he abſent in the yeare, when he is abſent? hath he an allowed Preacher for his Curate?

11 Whether is your Miniſter an allowed Preacher? if he be, doth he every Sunday in your Church, or ſome other neare adjoyning where no Preacher is, preach one Sermon every Sunday?

12 Whether doth your Miniſter being no Preacher allowed, preſume to expound the Scripture in his own Cure, or elſe whether doth he procure every moneth a Sermon to be preached in his Cure by Preachers lawfully licenſed? and on every Sunday when there is no Sermon, doth he or his Curate reade ſome one of the Homilies preſcribed?

13 Whether is your Curate allowed by the Ordinary under his hand and ſeal to ſerve in your Cure? and whether doth he ſerve two Churches or Chappels in one day?

14 Whether doth your Miniſter alwayes in ſaying the publick prayers, and adminiſtring the Sacraments, weare a decent Surpleſſe with ſleeves? and being a Graduate, doth he alwayes weare therewith a hood by the order of the Univerſities agreeable to his degree?

15 Whether hath your Miniſter or any other Preacher in your Church, preached any thing to confute or impugne any doctrine delivered by any other Preacher? and hath he and they prayed for Chriſts Catholick Church, as is preſcribed by the Canon?

16 Whether hath, or doth any preach in your Church which refuſeth to conform himſelf to the Laws, Rites, and Ordinances eſtabliſhed, or which hath not firſt ſhewed a ſufficient licence?

17 Whether doth your Miniſter in his ſermons foure times in the yeare at the leaſt, teach and declare the Kings Majeſties power within his Realmes to be the higheſt power under God, to whom all within the ſame owe moſt loyaltie and obedience, and that all forein power is juſtly taken away?

18 Whether doth your Miniſter every Sunday and Holy-day halfe an houre before evening Prayer or more, examine and inſtruct

the youth in the ten Commandments, the Beleef, the Lords Prayer, and the Catechisme set forth in the book of Common Prayer?

19 Whether hath your Minister married any which have not been three severall Sundayes or Holydayes asked in your Church in the time of divine Service, without licence? or hath he without licence married any, whereof neither dwelt in your Parish?

20 Whether hath your Minister with licence, or without, married any at other times then between the houres of eight and twelve in the forenoon, or in any private house; or when there is no licence, before their Parents or Governours (the parties being under the age of 21. yeares) have testified their consents?

21 Whether doth your Minister declare to the people every Sunday at the time appointed, what Holy-dayes or Fasting-dayes be the week following? Doth he being a Preacher conferre with all Recusants, and persons excommunicate or suspended? Being no Preacher, doth he procure a sufficient Preacher to reclaim them thereby?

22 Whether doth your Minister keep a note of all persons excommunicate? and once every six moneths doth he denounce them which have not obtained their absolution, on some Sunday in Service time, that others may be admonished to refrain their company?

23 Whether doth your Minister, having notice given him, diligently visit the sick, (the disease not being infectious) doth he instruct and comfort them? doth he then move them to make their Testaments, and remember the poore, and other works of charitie? and the passing bell tolling, doth he neglect his last duty?

24 Whether hath your Minister refused to baptize any childe brought to the Church upon any Sunday or Holy-day, or to bury any corps brought into the Church or Churchyard, or to church any women, having had convenient warning thereof?

25 Whether hath your Minister, being truely informed of the danger of the death of any infant unbaptized, and being desired to go to the place where the childe is, to baptize it, neglected to go, by meanes whereof the childe died unbaptized?

26 Whether doth your Minister at any time preach, or administer the Communion in any private house, except when any are so impotent that they cannot go to Church, or very dangerously sick?

27 Whether do any Chaplains in your Parish, preach or administer the Sacrament in any Chappell not consecrated, or in any house having no Chappell allowed by law? and doth the Lords Mes-

ſtreſſes, and the reſt of their family where ſuch Chappels are, reſort often to the Pariſh-Church, and there receive the Communion once at leaſt every yeare?

28 Whether hath your Miniſter held or appointed any publick Faſt? or been preſent at ſuch, doth he or any other in your Pariſh hold any Lecture publick or private, without the ſpeciall licence of the Biſhop?

29 Whether doth your Miniſter and Preacher, being at the leaſt a Maſter of Arts, or Bachelour of Law, uſually weare his gown with a ſtanding collar, and ſleeves ſtrait at the hand, or wide ſleeves, and therewithall a hood or tippet of ſilk or ſarcenet, and a ſquare cap?

30 Whether doth your Miniſter having not attained thoſe degrees, wear the like gown, and ſquare cap with a tippet?

31 Whether doth your Miniſter in his journey weare a cloke with ſleeves, called a Prieſts cloke, with gards, welts, long buttons, or cuts?

32 Whether doth your Miniſter weare a wrought night-cap at any time? or doth he weare any cut or pinckt apparell? doth he in publick go in his doublet and hoſe, without a coat or caſſock? and doth he weare any light-couloured ſtockings?

33 Whether doth your Miniſter reſort to any taverns, or alehouſes? or doth he board or lodge in any ſuch place? doth he uſe any baſe or ſervile labour, drinking, riot, dice, cards, tables, or any other unlawfull games? is he contentious, a hunter, hawker, ſwearer, dancer, ſuſpected of incontinencie, or doth give evil example of life?

34 Whether is there in your Pariſh any Miniſter or Deacon, who hath forſaken his calling, uſing himſelf in his courſe of life as a layman?

35 Whether hath your Miniſter married any incontinent perſons, before they have done penance, or procured licence from the Ordinary? and what be their names?

Touching School-maſters.

WHether have your Pariſh any School-maſter, who teacheth either in publick School, or private houſe? doth he give any evil example of life? is he allowed by the Ordinary under his hand and ſeal? or doth your Miniſter or Curate teach, and is he allowed in like manner?

2 Whether doth your Miniſter or School-maſter teach the Catechiſme by authority ſet forth? doth he when there is any Sermon or

divine Service, bring his Scholars to Church, and ſee them quietly and ſoberly ordered?

3 Whether doth he at any other times teach them ſuch ſentences of holy Scripture, as may induce them to all godlineſſe? doth he teach the Grammar ſet forth by King *Henry* the eight, continued by King *Edward* the ſixt, and Queen *Eliſabeth*?

4 Whether hath your School-maſter an Uſher under him? are they both diligent? is your Uſher allowed by the Ordinary? doth your School-maſter direct his Uſher the form and manner of teaching, and doth he weekly take account of him, and the Scholars under his charge, how they have profited, and what they have learned, and out of what Authors?

5 Whether hath either of them ſpoken, writ, or taught againſt any thing whereunto he formerly ſubſcribed; as the Kings ſupremacie, the Articles of Religion, the book of Common Prayer, or any thing therein contained?

Touching the Pariſh-clark and Sexton.

WHether have you a Pariſh-clark ſufficient for his place, of the age of 20. yeares at the leaſt? is he of honeſt converſation? can he read, write, and ſing? is he diligent in his office, and ſerviceable to his Miniſter?

2 Whether doth your Clark meddle with any thing above his office, as churching of women, burying of the dead, reading of prayers, or ſuch like?

3 Whether doth your Clark or Sexton keep your Church clean, the doores faſt locked? is any thing by his default loſt or ſpoiled in the Church? doth he ſuffer any unſeaſonable ringing, or any profane exerciſe in your Church?

4 Whether doth your Clark or Sexton, when any is paſſing out of this life, neglect to toule a bell, having notice thereof? or the party being dead, doth he ſuffer any more then one ſhort peale, and before his buriall one, and after the ſame another?

5 Whether doth any in your Pariſh refuſe to pay unto the Pariſh-clark or Sexton ſuch wages as are due to them, and have been accuſtomably paid?

Touching Pariſhioners.

WHether hath any in your Pariſh ſpoken againſt, or any way impugned the Kings Majeſties ſupremacie

Ecclesiasticall, the truth and doctrine of the Church of *England*, the form of Gods worship contained in the book of Common Prayer, and administration of the Sacraments?

2 Whether hath any in your Parish spoken against, or impugned the Articles of Religion agreed upon in *An.* 1602. the Rites & Ceremonies established in the Church, the government by Archbishops, Bishops, Deacons, Archdeacons, & others that beare office in the same?

3 Whether hath any in your Parish spoken against, or impugned the form of making and consecrating Bishops, Priests, or Deacons? or have any separated themselves from the societie of the congregation, and combined in a new brotherhood, or depraved any Synod held by the Kings authority?

4 Whether hath any in your Parish maintained, or defended any such Ministers or School-masters as refuse to subscribe to the order of the Church? have they affirmed that such Ministers, and their adherents may make rules and orders in causes Ecclesiasticall, without the Kings authority?

5 Whether doth any in your Parish, profane, violate, or mispend the Sabbath, or Holy-day, or any part of them, using any offensive conversation, or worldly labour in those dayes, or any of them, or on the fift day of *November* in prayer time?

6 Whether hath any in your Parish, in the time of divine Service covered his head, albeit he have an infirmitie, in which case a cap or night-coif is allowed? or is there any who hath not reverently kneeled when the generall Confession, Letany, and other prayers are read? and which have not stood up at the saying of the Beleef?

7 Whether hath any in your Parish disturbed the service or sermon by walking, talking, or any other way? or departed out of the Church during the service or sermon, without some urgent cause? or loytered about the Church or Church-porch?

8 Whether do all Parishioners receive the holy Communion thrice every yeare at the least, whereof the Feast of Easter to be one? and have all being of the age of sixteen yeares, duely received, or not?

9 Whether hath any parent been urged to be present, or admitted to answer as Godfather for his own childe? or hath any Godfather or Godmother made any other answer or speech, then is prescribed by the book? or hath any been admitted for such at Baptisme, who hath not first received the communion?

10 Whether do all fathers, mothers, masters, mistresses, come and

cause their children, servants, and apprentises, to come duly to the Church on the Sabbath, and all other Festivall dayes? and do they there reverently attend the divine Service and Sermon? and according to the Ministers direction be the younger sort instructed and catechized? and who be they that have not obeyed the Minister herein?

11 Whether do all persons within your Parish diligently resort to your Parish-church or Chappell? and do they there abide orderly and soberly during the prayers, preaching, or other service of God on the fift day of *November*, to give thanks for Gods great deliverance of this Realm from the late barbarous intended treason on the said day, 1605?

12 Whether have any persons married together within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity prohibited, set forth in a table appointed to be placed in every Church? or have any married or contracted themselves under the age of 21. yeares, without the consent of their parents or governours, if their parents be dead?

13 Whether have any persons once lawfully married, forsaken each other; or do live asunder without the authority of the Ordinary? or do any being divorced or separated, marry again, the former wife or husband yet living?

14 Whether have any been married in the times wherein marriage is by law restrained, without a lawfull license, viz. From the Saturday next before Advent-sunday, untill the fourteenth day of *January*: and from the Saturday next before Septuagesima-sunday, untill the Sunday next after Low-sunday: and from the Sunday before Rogation-week, untill Trinity-sunday?

15 Whether hath any in your Parish unreverently used your Minister, or have any laid violent hands upon him, or disgraced his office and calling, by word or deed?

16 Whether have you in your Parish any dweller or sojourner, a maintainer of Popish doctrine, or suspected to keep schismaticall books, or to favour any heresie or error?

17 Whether have you any common resorters to your Church, which are not of your Parish? or do any such receive the Communion amongst you? what be their names, and of what Parishes are they?

18 Whether have any in the time of Service, opened their shops, exercised their trade, used any gaming, been in any tavern or alehouse, or otherwise ill imployed?

19 Whether are there in your Parish any [illegible]

incestuous persons, bauds, receivers, close favourers, conveyors away, or which suffer to depart any incontinent person unpunished? or be there in your Parish any blasphemers, swearers, drunkards, rybauds, usurers, malicious slanderers, scolds, sowers of discord, or any defamed of the said crimes?

20 Whether do any in your Parish buy, sel, eat, drink, set on work, or usually converse with any person excommunicate? and what be their names?

21 Whether do any in your Parish administer the goods of the dead without authority, or suppresse their Will or Testament? have any executors neglected to perform their Wills, especially in paying of legacies given to the Church, to the poore, or to any other charitable uses?

22 Whether do any refuse to pay to the reparations, ornaments, and other things required in your Church, as they are ceassed by a lawfull Vestry? or any dwelling out of your Parish, which hold land in your Parish?

23 Whether hath any person suspended or excommunicated, been suffered to heare divine Service, or the Sermon, to receive the Sacraments, to be married or churched? or have any excommunicants been buried in Christian buriall?

24 Whether doth your Minister and you the Churchwardens, keep a book of all persons excommunicate, and absolved, within your Parish, to the end that the excommunicate persons may be repelled from the Service and Sacraments?

25 Whether are all persons persisting in the sentence of excommunication, denounced publickly in your Church every six moneths at the least, to the end they may be avoyded, and ashamed of their said contempts to lawfull authority?

26 Whether have any in your Parish been christned, churched, buried, or received the Communion, or been married out of your Church, both parties dwelling in your Parish?

27 Whether have all women in your Parish delivered of childe, come at convenient time after to Church, to give thanks? and have they been churched according to the form of the book of Common Prayer in a decent habit?

28 Whether hath the perambulation of the circuit of your Parish, been observed once every yeare? if not, whose default is it?

[illegible] in your Parish given the Churchwardens or

Sidemen, or any of them, evil words for doing their duty, according to their oath and conſcience in making preſentment for any fault?

Touching Churchwardens and Swornmen.

WHether do any in your Pariſh take upon him to be Churchwarden or Sideman, which is not lawfully choſen by the Miniſter and Pariſhioners according to the Canon? or do any continue that office longer then one yeare, except they be choſen again? and are all ſuch Officers choſen yearely in Eaſter week?

2 Whether do your Churchwardens within one moneth at the moſt after their yeare ended, before the Miniſter and Pariſhioners give up a juſt account of all ſuch money, and other things, as they have received and beſtowed? have they delivered all remaining in their hands belonging to their Church or Pariſh, by bill indented, to be delivered to the next Churchwardens?

3 Whether have the Churchwardens with the advice of the Miniſter, from time to time provided a ſufficient quantitie of fine white bread, and wholeſome wine, for the number of Communicants?

4 Whether do the Churchwardens and Swornmen before every Viſitation, and at other times when there is juſt occaſion, meet and conferre about their preſentments, and the anſwering of their Articles? and who hath (after notice given him of the time and place) careleſly abſented himſelf?

5 Whether is the forfeiture of 12. pence for abſence from Church, appointed by Statute to the uſe of the poore, taken and levied by the Churchwardens, and imployed according to the ſaid Statute? and whether is the ſame forfeiture taken of all perſons which ſtand wilfully ſuſpended or excommunicated?

6 Whether have any Churchwardens loſt, ſold, or detained any goods, ornaments, bels, rents, or implements of the Church?

7 Whether do ye the Churchwardens and Sidemen about the midſt of divine Service, uſually walk out of the Church, and ſee who are abroad in any alehouſe, or elſewhere abſent, or evil imployed? and have ye preſented all ſuch to the Ordinary?

8 Whether do you know, or have heard a fame of any offence committed, or duty omitted by any of your Pariſh, before your time, and heretofore not preſented to the Ordinary, or as yet not reformed? and have you preſented the ſame?

9 Finally, do you know of any matter or cauſe, which is a breach of the laws Eccleſiaſticall here not expreſſed, and have you preſented